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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1906.

California and the Japanese.

We think our California friends are
viewing with quite too much alarm the
apparently minatory phrase in the President's
message asserting the executive
purpose, if it may be lawfully carried
out, to employ the entire military and
civil forces of the Federal government
to maintain the treaty rights of the
Japanese. The language used by the
President is strenuous and superlative,
but it hardly justifies visions of military
operations against San Francisco or a
naval blockade of that port. As an ultimate
resort, the army and navy are be-
hind all enforcement of Federal law, and
the President evidently intended nothing
more than to express as vigorously as
possible his resolute purpose to enforce
the law. Federal troops have been used
to uphold Federal statutes, notably in the
South during Grant's administration. We
do not imagine President Roosevelt has
the remotest thought of reproducing any
feature of that unhappy regime.

The truth is that the President's
emphasis on international morality, which
has set the Californians by the ears, does
not wholly disclose the administration
policy with respect to the Japanese ques-
tion. We must confess to sharing the
perplexity of our California friends, on
reading the message, as to just what it is
that the President purposes to enforce
with all the military and civil forces at
his command. The treaty rights of the
Japanese? But what are they? Exclu-
sion of Japanese children from the com-
mon schools the President has declared as
"wicked absurdity," nowhere does he say
that it is in violation of the treaty with
Japan. He has avoided prejudging that
question, the really vital point in the con-
troversy, and has not made known
through his message the precise method
by which the administration hopes to
achieve a settlement of the matter in
dispute.

From other sources, however, it may be
gathered that the administration adheres
to the view that discrimination against
Japanese children in the public schools of
the States violates the rights of residence
guaranteed to the Japanese by treaty.
The right of education, we are told, goes
with the right of residence. Serious dif-
ferences of opinion are likely to arise as
to the correctness of both these propo-
sitions. They are properly questions for
judicial determination, and the plan of
the Department of Justice to bring them
before the courts is strongly to be com-
mended. Executive enforcement of law
follows, it does not usually precede, judi-
cial process; so the people of California
need have no fear that the clank of
arms will immediately disturb their slum-
bers.

Pending legal decision as to the merits
of the Japanese case, upon which alone
further executive action can be founded,
resolutions expressive of opinion on the
interpretation of a treaty are inexpedient
at best. They may tend to embarras
the President, but they may have the
effect also of fomenting unpleasant
agitation and embittering our relations
with a country where the harmlessness
of Congressional resolutions may not be
as well understood as it is among us.

The eagerness with which Mr. Roose-
velt invites a call of his hand on the
question of the discharged negro troops
indicates that he is a pretty confident
stand-patter in that respect, at all events.

Labor on the Canal.

There is little doubt that the special
message of President Roosevelt to Con-
gress on the subject of the Panama Canal
will be as thorough and painstaking as all
of his public documents are. It required a
man of his energy and persistence to visit
the Canal Zone and inspect the work be-
fore seeking to advise Congress on the matter.

One phase of the question that will have
universal interest will be that in which
the President shall deal with the labor
question on the isthmus. It is a subject
fraught with many and dangerous possi-
bilities. It goes without saying that hav-
ing once determined that the canal shall
be dug—the nation being committed before
the world to the task—it will be completed
regardless of difficulties standing in the
way. It is also settled beyond peradventure
that the physical labor on the canal
cannot be performed by American labor.
The experiment with negro coolies from
Jamaica has been tried; it failed, and the
Jamaicans are being sent home again.
The one hope of securing fairly efficient
labor at a reasonable cost lies in the em-
ployment of Chinese coolies.

Here, then, the United States confronts
a problem that will demand all our pa-
tience, all our serious and thoughtful con-
sideration. When we first extended our
empire and acquired insular possessions it
was freely predicted that we should fail,
having no knowledge of colonial govern-
ment and no adequate civil service, as in
Great Britain, trained and devoted to this
government over seas. If we have not
succeeded in our colonial administration
according to our highest ideals, we have,
at least, by no means failed, and there is
no reason why, in the years to come, we
should not train up a colonial administrative
force second to none.

But on this Chinese coolie question we
are confronting a problem that has baffled
other nations. For long years Great
Britain sought to foster her sugar indus-
try in the West Indies by means of cheap
East Indian coolie labor. In spite of the
utmost precautions of government inspec-
tion and regulation the coolie immigration
scheme developed into something like
short of slavery, and public opinion inter-
vened to stop it in the name of humanity.

That same nation, answering the demand
of its colonists in South Africa for labor
with which to work the diamond and gold
mines on the Rand, inaugurated a system
of Chinese coolie labor and imported from
the north of China, mostly from the Shan-
tung province, some of the finest speci-
mens of the Chinese race. In South Africa
they were cared for under government
inspection—fed, doctored, housed, paid ac-
cording to regulation—and yet, in spite of
all these safeguards, the howl of legalized
slavery went up the project was a failure,
and the British ministry had to recede
from its position and, whether the work
in the mines was done or not, had to de-
port the coolies back to their homes.

The problem that other nations have
failed to solve we have to face if we are
to build the canal. It is a problem that
will render, in all probability, more deli-
cate our international relations with the
far East. Many of the Chinese who come
over will, doubtless, never return. With
all our care of them, many will take sick
and die, and if they are to be employed—
as seems likely—by a private contractor,
that fact will not render our duty of care
supervision any the more easy.

It is, indeed, a grave question the con-
fronts us here; one that has no precedent
by which we may be guided; a question
that will demand the earnest and most
serious thought of those into whose hands
it may be entrusted.

To California: Beware the big stick.

An Annual Performance.

Generally speaking, the short session of
an expiring Congress is rather a dull and
tame affair. In the common phrase of the
streets, "there is nothing doing" that
is new, novel, or exciting. Never-
theless and notwithstanding, Gen. J.
Warren Keifer is sure to come along at
some point in the proceedings and enliven
the session by springing his time-honored
and moss-covered proposition to cut
down representation of the South in the
national House of Representatives. All
else failing, there is ever ready the once-
upon-a-time Speaker with his trusty little
hobby.

The personnel of the House is rarely the
same exactly from one session to the
next. There are at every session a few
new members to be sworn in to fill va-
cancies caused through Providential
causes, or otherwise. At the present ses-
sion these appear to be rather more than
usual. In fact, there are at least four
or five. The number of victims being so
unusually large, Gen. Keifer begins his
address with the assurance that he has al-
ready seen the President about cutting
down the South's representation—re-
ceiving just as hearty and cordial indorse-
ment for the idea as he has ever received
from Mr. Roosevelt.

The one new member from Dixie, un-
accustomed to this performance, is trem-
bling in his boots for the fate of his loved
Southland. That is, he ought to be, if
he isn't. And if he isn't, some one ought
to let him know that that is the right
and proper thing to do. It would be
shame to allow the general to do his
little rant and not a tremble or a
tremor result for his pains. That the
erstwhile presiding officer of the House
takes the time between riots and negro
"chasing" in his own town to come to
Washington for the exploitation of his
harmless little bugaboo is something that
should not be lost upon the new mem-
bers. If they lend not an affrighted ear
to the general's continuous vaudeville,
who will?

One of the happy and felicitous facts
in connection with the present session is
that Gen. Keifer has been chosen to
come back to the House next term and
"continue his fight."

One of the Congressional committees
has already started a row about whether
the United States "is" or "are." It looks
as if the English language is to have
more trials and tribulations than Job.

Looking to the Future.

Somewhat delphic, it is true, but non-
theless of possible significance in its
bearing on the greatest economic ques-
tion with which the American people
ever had to deal, is this declaration in the
President's message:

"The national government has long enjoyed its
chief revenue from a tariff on imports and from an
internal or excise tax. In addition to these, there is
very rarely any other source of revenue. The tariff
is revised, the national government should im-
pose a graduated inheritance tax, and, if possible, a
graduated income tax."

As near as President Roosevelt has
ever come to making a public recom-
mendation for tariff revision, the fore-
going declaration must be accepted as
"foremost," that is, the one that will make
him the leader of rational tariff revision,
as he is the leader of other reforms
forced by him upon his party for the
good of the country. For strictly revenue
purposes there is not now, nor will there
likely be in the near future, necessity
for laying more taxes. The tariff and
excise taxes are producing more revenue
than the government needs, and as long
as property lasts they will continue to
do so. Inheritance and income taxes un-
doubtedly would meet with wide, popu-
lar favor, but as long as the Treasury
does not need them the demand for their
enactment is not apt to be pressed upon
the lawmakers in such strength as to
force favorable action. But the President
says "when our next system of taxation
is revised" a graduated inheritance tax
should be imposed, and, if possible, a
graduated income tax also. Plainly, he
does not mean to expect his tremendous
influence on Congress at an early day for
either one or the other tax on wealth.
Plainly, he is willing to wait until the
next revision of our system of taxation
is undertaken. At the base of that sys-
tem is the tariff. A revision of that tax
that would appreciably decrease revenues
would touch the whole system; would not
be done by piecemeal, shaving a schedule
here and there, and mayhap raising a few.

The President may have in mind the
purpose to force general tariff revision as
a policy and pledge upon his party in the
campaign of 1908, with inheritance and in-
come tax promises in the background as
the means whereby to supply whatever
deficiencies in the revenues might be cre-
ated by tariff reductions. Such a pro-
gramme would stir the country, and its
fruition would maintain Theodore Roose-
velt's leadership undiminished. Should his
party win on a platform of this charac-
ter, even if he should adhere to his de-
termination to decline to run for Presi-
dent again, he would step from the White
House to the Senate in 1909 still the leader
of the political organization which he has
done so much to strengthen, and as a
Senator with a distinct mission to per-
form.

The pesky little Japs have already suc-
ceeded in chasing the States' rights
skeleto out of the closet.

Illustrating a Presidential message is all
very well in its way, but we hope it will
not be necessary to add a civic appen-
dix in order to make Congress sit up
and take notice.

A young lady declares she will marry
no man except a Kentuckian who isn't a
colonel. She had just as well purchase a

parrot and a canary bird and settle down
right now to the quiet and simple life of
a spinster.

Any five-year-old tot could tell Peary
what a useless waste of time it is to
seek to invade Santa Claus' stronghold.

It seems that the little item about the
man who was awarded \$5,000 for telling
his employer a lot of funny stories isn't
true. It sounded too good to be true.

Chicago is willing to pay \$10,000 a year
for the man who will "advertise that
city advantageously to the world." A
man with nerve enough to do that would
be cheap at any price.

A Georgia Justice of the peace dropped
dead the other day just after performing
a wedding ceremony. The happy groom
must have handed him as much as a \$2
fee.

Chairman Burton is in favor of the
subsidized harbor, but opposed to the
subsidized ship.

The University of Nebraska has forbid-
den smoking or chewing by the students.
This will probably result in a greatly in-
creased tobacco trade in that vicinity.

It seems, after all, that the newspapers
in their advance notices did overlook
one or two things that Mr. Roosevelt
intended saying.

Mr. P. Sheridan Ball says the "intelli-
gent white people of South Carolina do
not vote for Tillman." We presume that
P. Sheridan is one of those long-distance
critics who never saw South Carolina in
his life, and therefore knows all about it.

This is the joyous and happy season of
the year when lovely women gets a lot
of sage advice about shopping early and
avoiding the rush, the same which she
proceeds not to take.

That magazine writer who is telling about
"the crookedest railroad in the world"
shows great consideration for some of
our financial lights by not men-
tioning any names.

If Congress should pass an income-tax
law, it would be a sad blow to many a
press agent.

Now that Dowie is without a cent to
his name he is stark mad and no longer
an eccentric old gentleman.

So far no carping critic has opposed
Mr. Roosevelt's suggestion that some
plan be sought out whereby the money
stringency may be relieved.

Cheer up! "We are blessed beyond
other nations," says Mr. Bryan. "This
country is the land of a success," says
Uncle Joe Cannon. What's the worry?

Marie Corelli hates paragraphs, but it
must be acknowledged that paragraphs
have found Marie a good thing.

Everybody seems to know just what the
governor of New York ought to get in
his Christmas stocking, but they are also
assigned to his not getting it.

"I rank among the foremost men of the
age," said Nikola Tesla the other day.
We trust Nikola isn't trying to push
George Bernard Shaw clear off the deck.

"Mr. Cleveland and Mr. Roosevelt may
yet be numbered among the Senators,"
says a contemporary. How in the world
could Mr. Tillman manage to keep his eye
on both?

Smashing precedents has come to be
such a common thing that it may soon be
considered quite a novelty to do anything
in an old-fashioned way.

"Yesterday was quite a windy day,"
says Tuesday's Savannah News. Yes,
Congress met Monday.

The American farmer is worth \$6,794,
000,000. The man with the hoe has become
the man with the "dough."

The Pullman porters are said to be in
favor of doing away with tips. This looks
suspiciously like an effort to get out of
hitting the passenger's coat more than
three times with the whisk broom instead
of four times, as at present.

The Japanese are said to yearn being
called "Japs." This is no time for them
to be kicking about simplification and ab-
breviation.

Jesse James says, "I believe in the en-
forcement of the law." Evidently the
genius of the James family has followed
the accepted rule of skipping at least one
generation.

Mayor Schmitz says he does not think
much of indictments. Familiarity has
evidently bred contempt.

Japan ought not to take Capt. Hobson
so seriously. It may get her into trouble.

Absent-minded Bridegroom.
From the Philadelphia Record.

At a banquet of clergymen recently
the subject of absent-minded people
was under discussion, and yarens an-
cient and of recent date were told by
several speakers. It is seldom that
ministers compete with one another to
tell stories that task the credulity of
their hearers, but upon this occasion
Rev. Stephen W. Dana, pastor of the
Walnut Street Presbyterian Church,
carried off the honors. "There was a
physician whose absent-mindedness
was the mark of that it often caused
queer complications," said Dr. Dana.
"Why, when he was married the min-
ister told him to place the wedding ring
on his bride's finger. He reached for
her hand, felt her pulse, and, as it was
very weak, he naturally beating faster than
normal, exclaimed: 'Let me see your
tongue.'"

Had Plenty of Confidence.
From the New York Tribune.

Augustus T. Jones, the well known
playwright, was talking about the
difficulties and the heartrending anxiety of
the night.

"On my own first nights," he said,
"I am a pitiable object, utterly with-
out hope, convinced in advance that
my play is bound to fail."
"At such times I often wish I had
the self-confidence that possessed
Charles Reade. He, after he had
dramatized his novel of 'Never Too
Late to Mend,' wrote on the margin of
a certain passage.

"If the audience fails to weep here,
the passage has not been properly
acted."

Scared Both of Them.

When Mr. Justice Maule was on the
bench a bullying counsel was one day
brow-beating an elderly female witness
in a case before him. Having badgered
her into a state of utter speechless-
ness, the lawyer appealed to the judge
to make her answer his questions.

A LITTLE NONSENSE.

REAL WOE.

You've heard of the 'maliden
nothing' that
From Bagdad and Aiden,
To Madison Square,
Has traveled the ditty
That told of her woes,
And won for her pity,
As every one knows.

A fig for her sorrows!
The shoppers are out!
For many to-morrows
They'll surely about
Then ye who are human,
Give ear and attend,
And pity the woman
With nothing to spend.

Used Advisedly.
"The duke is impossible."
"Now what do you mean by that?"
"I mean that he can't be true."

Human Nature.
"Ever notice?"
"Ever notice what?"
"That just as soon as a man gets into
a secret society he begins to kick about
the laxity of the admission rules?"

Call of the Blood.
"The babies howl,
Unceasing squall,
And husband thunders no,
And wife pops,
The silver spoon about
Whisper, and she must go."

The Auto Novel.
"Read the latest, Grace?"
"Tell me about it."
"Why, the hero, a sweet little run-
about, is in love with a handsome Pan-
hard, but her father, the cruel Cadillac,
forces her to marry a big red Toledo."

Rival Burns.
"Can't match our Burns?" inquired the
Scott. "I'm very sure that ye can not."
The Norseman smiled and murmured
low: "We had our ancient skalds, you
know."

Something Wrong.
"What are you farmers beefing about?"
demanded the Republican statesman.
"Ain't you always prosperous under a
Republican administration?"
"Yes; but we were more prosperous
than the Democratic farmers," doggedly
replied old Farmer Cobbs.

THE INNOCENT BYSTANDER.

LITTLE HENRY FINDS OUT.

His Mother Gets Him to Help Her
With the Christmas Presents.
He Seeks on Pa and Uncle Bill.

Ma called me to her day before yester-
day and she wanted me to help her
do something.

She had a pece of pencil in her hand
that was about a inch long and looked as
if she had chewed it to sharpen it, and
she had a lot of notes made on the back
of a bill from the dressmaker.

Henry, she said, I am puzzled to deth
to know what to give you pa and your
Uncle Willum for Christmas. I do wish
you would kind of pump them and see
what they would like to have, and then
tell me, without giving it away to them
what they are trying to find out.

All right, ma, I'll do it, and tried to
get peek at her list to see if she had me
down for the magazine revolver I want.
But she folded up the paper and put it
away.

So that night when pa and Uncle Bill
was sitting in the library talkin about
the way senator Tillman had better look
out or he will be playing in a drama
that has a press agent, or else he will be
crackin a black snake whip around in
Uncle Tom's Cabin, I ast pa what he
thot was the right kind of a Christmas
present.

You otto be satisfied with what you
get, my yung man, he sed, without com-
ing around and hintin.

I ast him, I tolt him, I just want
to know what your idee would be about one
for yourself.

Grate Scott! he sed. Has it come to
this? It is had enuff to hafta fork over
three times what I want, but I had me
without havin to pay for something you
get for me.

I don't want to get you anything, I sed.
I just want to get yure idee about what
you want.

Uncle Bill spoke up and sed most men
could tell what they wanted better by
telling what they dont want.

What would you like to have, unkel Bill?
I ast him.

Well, now, the sed, there is lots of
things I would be glad to see in my
stockin on Christmas morning. If I was
a woman of course I would yern for
diamond bracelets and necklaces and rings
and gold watches that I could pin on me
somewhere where a pickpocket could get
them without pickin my pocket. There
never was a pickpocket that could pick a
woman's pocket, except one that lived in
New York, and he had me married four
times, and he confessed that the reason
he got married so many times was just
becos he wanted to turn where a woman
keeps her pocket. It was a matter of
professional pride with him, becous he sed
there was no profit in pickin a woman's
pocket when all you got was a bunch of
samples and a button hook and a powder
rag and between thirty and forty cents.

But I don't sed what pickin pockets has
to do with Christmas presents, I sed me.
You wate till you git married, pa spoke
up real quick.

Finely pa and Uncle Bill they got me
to tell them about ma astin me to find
out what they wanted, and then they
lafted and lafted, and Uncle Bill sed it
was a refreshin indication of the change
that was takin place when a woman even
thought of thinkin about what you want-
ed. I sed what I usually went ahead and
sed what they wanted you to want.

You tell your ma, pa sed, that as near
as you can learn what I want is more hair
on my head, my wisdom tooth filled, and
rokin chares that I wont want with
my legs when I tolt me in the mornin.

And if she asts you what I want, unkel
Bill sed, you tell her that I am noncom-
mittal to a decree, but that you think I
would prefer a tobacco pouch that has
a pocket inside the lining, a collar
and cuff box with pink satin inside of it,
a cigar cutter that I can hang on my
watch chain whenever I want to feel
peterickly ashamed of myself, a silver
tumbler that she can borrow from me
the day after Christmas and never
give back to me, and a smokin set made
out of hammer brass that I can sell to
somebody for finger bowls.

That's rite, pa sed.
But the Christmas present for a
man, unkel Bill sed, is to pick out a fifty
dollar present for him, that he would
haffo pay for when the bill comes in, and
then not get it. WILBUR NESBIT.
(Copyright, 1906, by W. D. Nesbit.)

Mr. Fairbank's Favorite Drink.
From the Chicago Record-Herald.

Vice President Fairbanks denies that
he likes buttermilk. He says he once
thanked a lady for handing him a glass
of buttermilk and that some newspaper
published a paragraph about it, thus
giving rise to the story that buttermilk
was his favorite beverage. He insists
that he rarely drinks anything but ice
water.

Big Stick Wielded at Home.

From the Baltimore American.

The Japs will lock in vain for any evi-
dence of the Big Stick in the President's
message. Californians may think differ-
ently.

And to Feather Their Nest.

From the Dallas News.

The trusts are merely our chickens that
have come home to roost.

CAPITOL GOSSIP.

Won't Move to Arkansas.

Senator Carmack, of Tennessee, one of
the most distinguished of the lame ducks,
will not emigrate across the river from
his home at Memphis to Arkansas when
his high seat is taken on the 4th of
March by the Hon. "Fiddling Bob" Tay-
lor, for the good and sufficient reason that
he has learned what the natives of Ar-
kansas think of outsiders who come there
to live. As he tells the story, a citizen of
Tennessee, thinking to benefit his condi-
tion by selling out his earthly posses-
sions in the Volunteer State and invest-
ing the proceeds therefrom in rich bot-
tom lands of Arkansas, soon discovered
after his migration, that he had made a
mistake, and that bankruptcy was star-
ing him in the face. He accordingly de-
cided to sell at public auction what re-
mained of his investment in Arkansas
and move back to Tennessee. Discour-
aged by the extremely low prices at
which the auctioneer was compelled to
knock down everything offered for sale,
the disappointed Tennesseean proceeded
to express plainly and profanely his
views of Arkansas and Arkansians to a
group of natives sitting quietly on his
porch, nonchalantly whittling on
sticks. His face apologetically red, the
Tennesseean wrathfully inquired of the
Arkansas natives:

"Where do so many blankety-blank-
blank-blanks come in Arkansas?"
In unison the natives took a long cheer
on their tobacco quids, spat at a crack
in the porch and yawningly replied:

"Wall, stranger, they jest keep a-mov-
in' in and a-movin' out, and that's all
we uns know about 'em."

Col. Street Returns.

Col. William Greene Stettin, famous as
a journalist in Texas, and as a raconteur
in Washington, has accompanied to the
Capital the delegation representing the
Western River and Harbor Improvement
Association, and will deliver an address
before the House Committee on Rivers
and Harbors in a few days on the rea-
sons why the government of the United
States should connect Dallas, his home
town, with the Gulf of Mexico by con-
verting Trinity River into a raging
stream, capable of accommodating the
largest merchant ships afloat.

They Gave Him a Dose.

The Hon. Walter I. Smith, of Pota-
watomie County, Iowa, told yesterday
his fellow-members of the House from
Missouri of a Democratic convention he
happened to attend in their State during
the recent campaign. The movement
for supplanting old men with young men
in the administration of Missouri affairs
had reached high tide in that part of the
State where he held the convention at-
tended by Judge Smith. It so fell out,
however, that a local patriarch of great
prestige was added for one of the
offices for which nomination were to be
made by the Democrats in convention as-
sembled. An eloquent Missourian pre-
sented the name and exalted the merits
of the patriarch. "Gentlemen of the con-
vention," he represented the venerable
Democracy of the Stentch district
of Missouri," he shouted in a great burst
of oratory, "it is my honor and my plea-
sure to present to you the name of a man
of high years, of high spirit, one who,
though approaching the apex of life
allotted by the psalmist, has never taken
a dose of medicine; one who—"

Here the orator's peroration was cut
short by a shrill voice from the audience,
exclaiming:

"We'll give him a dose to-day, all
right."
"And they did," declared Judge Smith.

Longworth Asks for Time.

The Hon. Nicholas Longworth ambled
jauntily from his seat in the House yester-
day toward the restaurant in the base-
ment. In the hallway he was met by the
Hon. A. S. Burleson, of Texas